

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-6 are pending in the present application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 3-6 have been amended and claim 2 has been canceled. It is submitted that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated February 22, 2010.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as including indefiniteness.

This rejection is respectfully traversed. Specifically, the Examiner alleges that it is not clear to the Examiner if Applicant is invoking § 112 6th paragraph because “means for” language was not used. It is submitted that claims 1 and 3-6 have been amended to clarify that Applicants do not invoke § 112 6th paragraph. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Landert (USP 6,084,367) in view of Hagiwara (USP 4,697,383).

Claim 1, as amended, now recites the feature of “*a second move command unit outputting move command signals to the pair of moving device to open the doors fully immediately or after the moving object is detected by the spare sensor if the moving status calculator cannot calculate the position and moving direction of the moving object due to individual recognition*

failure of the moving object in the crowd although the moving status calculator can perform the image processing.” This amendment is supported by, for example, as follows:

a second move command unit outputting move command signals to the pair of moving device to open the doors fully immediately (see Fig. 5, ST3:Yes→ST19) or after the moving object is detected by the spare sensor (see Fig. 4A, ST3:Yes→ST17→ST18:Yes→ST19) if the moving status calculator cannot calculate the position and moving direction of the moving object due to individual recognition failure of the moving object in the crowd (see Figs. 4A and 5, ST3:Yes) although the moving status calculator can perform the image processing (see Figs. 4A and 5, ST1:No).

With regard to this amended feature, both of the Examiner’s cited references of Landert and Hagiwara are silent regarding “a second move command unit outputting move command signals to the pair of moving device to open the doors fully immediately if the moving status calculator cannot calculate the position and moving direction of the moving object due to individual recognition failure of the moving object in the crowd although the moving status calculator can perform the image processing, or open the doors fully after the moving object is detected by the spare sensor if the moving status calculator cannot calculate the position and moving direction of the moving object due to individual recognition failure of the moving object in the crowd although the moving status calculator can perform the image processing. Therefore, even if, assuming *arguendo*, that Landert may be combined with Hagiwara in the manner suggested by the Examiner, such combination would still fail to disclose or fairly suggest this amended feature as recited in amended claim 1.

Accordingly, independent claim 1 and its dependent claims patentably distinguish over Landert and Hagiwara.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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